(c) whether coordination is being maintained with the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to gear up its machinery to set the marketing infrastructure in place to handle the anticipated heavy crop, in the interest of the apple growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Food processing Industries under its Plan Schemes provides financial assistance in the form of soft loans (at only 4% rate of interest) and grant-in-aid to Cooperatives, Non-Government Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector Undertakings for development of processed food industries which includes processing of apples. During the period 1992-93, financial assistance of Rs. 9.43 crores has been extended in respect of proposals received from the State of Himachal Pradesh for creation of infrastructural facilities including cold chain, setting up/ expansion/modernisation of processing units etc. The assistance provided also covers apple processing units.

State Government of Himachal Pradesh has identified Director of Industries Government of Himachal Pradesh as the Nodal Agency processed food industries. Close interaction with all Nodal Agencies including that of Himachal Pradesh is maintained for development of this sector.

Wind Power Projects in Gujarat

2520. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of wind power projects which are functional at present in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that the State has more potential for generating wind power;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to establish more wind power projects in the State to tap the potential; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The district-wise operational wind power capacity at present in the State of Gujarat is given below:

District	Operational Wind Power Capacity (MW)
Jamnagar	57
Rajkot	65
Kutch	2

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Wind power projects are now being undertaken by the private sector as commercial projects. Further wind power capacity addtion in the State to tap the potential will depend upon early announcement of a conducive policy by the State Government, technical feasibility, economic viability and continuation of fiscal and promotional incentives.

Schemes for Non-Conventional Energy Development

2521. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the scheme in operation under the non-conventional energy sector in the country;

(b) the scheme-wise details of their operational status, financial allocations and achievements made since 1996;

(c) reasons for very low performance of this sector in the State of Assam and steps taken for improvement; and

(d) the details of proposals, if any, Pending for clearance?